



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

Public Safety Committee
Town Hall, 50 South Main Street, Room 312
December 7, 2017
8:00 AM

Attendance

Leon Davidoff, Chair
Dallas Dodge
Beth Kerrigan
Liam Sweeney
Chris Williams

Staff

Matt Hart, Town Manager (by phone)
Gary Allyn, Fire Chief
Dan Coppinger, Assistant Police Chief
Robert McCue, Assistant Police Chief

Members of the Public

1. Call to Order: Chairman Davidoff called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. This is the first meeting of the new Town Council term.
2. Communications: Chairman Davidoff acknowledged receipt of the minutes from November 3, 2017 meeting.
3. Police Update: Asst. Chief Coppinger updated the committee on the recent police activity including an increase in opioid overdoses, purse snatches, and robberies. He also discussed the recovery of the child involved in the bicycle accident last month, the Los Imperios victory, the process for credit card scammers at local gas stations, and the plan to send out friendly reminders to residents to be aware of their package deliveries during the holiday season.

Town Manager Matt Hart briefed the committee on the police chief search. The Town will conduct a nationwide search in order to attract a broad, diverse pool. Internal and external panels will be created. Human Resources will be heavily involved and also prepare a leadership profile. The position should be posted early next year with hopes to be filled by June or July. The Town will keep the committee updated.

4. Fire Update: Chief Allyn updated the committee on various fire department activity. He provided handouts summarizing incident type reports and incident

type periods. There were 4 building fires in November and all occupants were able to return into home.

Staff will be a part of the mine training and rescue crew for the MDC tunnel project with a tentative start date of March. The project will last 18 months and the company is covering all costs.

Chief Allyn provided personnel updates. The department is expecting retirements and will have a total of 6 vacancies. Chief Allyn and the Town Manager are in discussions on how the vacancies will affect the budget. The committee will be updated next month. The department is also reviewing applications for the assistant chief position and will have a candidate by mid to late January.

The Town continues to work with special counsel regarding the write off policy for paramedic services. Counsel is reviewing various kickback statutes, labor costs, and assessments.

5. Other Business: none.
6. Adjournment: Chairman Davidoff adjourned the meeting at 8:35 AM.